

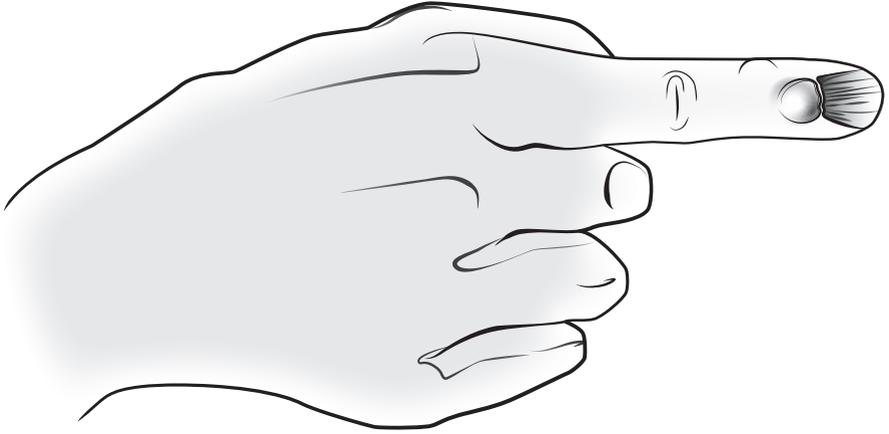


Information about Mucous Cysts



What is a Mucous Cyst?

A mucous cyst is a smooth lump under the skin due to a cyst which contains jelly-like fluid. It can vary in size. It is often associated with early wear and tear of the end joint of a finger. Pressure from the cyst can also cause a furrow to appear in the fingernail. Occasionally the cyst can leak fluid.



What will happen to the cyst?

Mucous cysts are harmless and can be safely left alone. There are no long-term problems from not treating a mucous cyst.

What are the treatment options?

It is usually best to leave the cyst alone. We normally only offer surgery if they are very painful, or keep getting infected.

What are the risks from surgery?

- You will have a permanent scar
- The growth of your nail may become abnormal after surgery
- The cyst may come back in 10% (1 in 10) people
- Infection, stiffness and chronic pain from the joint may occur

What do I do now?

We do not routinely provide a hospital appointment.

After reading this leaflet if you think that you do not need treatment at the moment you do not need to take any further action. You can get advice from us directly in the future if your symptoms get worse.

Please contact us on the number provided on the covering letter if you wish to discuss further.

